

# You wouldn't wash your car in the ocean...



## ...so why would you let your soap, grease and dirty water enter the storm drains?

When you wash your car at home, the water you use can flow off your driveway and into the street, picking up dirt, chemicals and trash along the way. Then this water runs into storm drains, where it flows **untreated** into our creeks, streams, harbors and the ocean. Help protect the environment by using commercial car washes. If you must wash your car at home, use a nozzle to turn off the water when you're not using the hose. Use biodegradable soap, and wash your car on grass or gravel to help absorb the water.

Brought to you by the Orange County Stormwater Program

For more information, visit [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com)



# You wouldn't dump oil into the ocean...



## ...so why would you let your car drain oil near storm drains?

When your car leaks oil onto the street or your driveway, rain and other water can wash the oil into the storm drains. The oil and polluted water then flow **untreated** into our creeks, streams, harbors and the ocean. Help protect the environment by repairing your car's leaks. Never rinse a spill with water! Use paper towels, cat litter or another absorbent material to soak up spills, then sweep up and take the waste to a used oil collection center. Call the Used Oil Recycling Program at 1-800-CLEANUP or visit [www.CLEANUP.org](http://www.CLEANUP.org) for locations.

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# You wouldn't dump fertilizer in the ocean...



## ...so why would you let garden chemicals enter the storm drains?

When you use fertilizer or pesticides, you might be helping your lawn, but hurting the environment. Water from rain, hoses or sprinklers can carry excess chemicals off your lawn and into storm drains. This water then flows **untreated** into our creeks, streams, harbors and the ocean. Help protect the environment by carefully following directions and not using more fertilizer or pesticide than you need. Don't use the products when rain is predicted within 48 hours. Water your lawn by hand or adjust sprinklers to avoid over-watering. If any water flows off your lawn, you're using too much!

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# You wouldn't let your dog use the ocean for a bathroom...



## ...so why would you let its waste enter the storm drains?

If you don't pick up after your pet, rainwater and water from people's yards can wash the waste into gutters and storm drains. The polluted water and waste then flow **untreated** into our creeks, streams, harbors and the ocean. Help protect the environment by picking up after your pet and throwing its waste in the garbage or the toilet.

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